



United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

July 17, 2006



CVC workers position a steel beam arch in the East Front Extension of the Capitol. The beam is part of the steel framework that will span two escalators and the main staircase that connect the CVC to the Capitol. The framework will support blocks of sandstone that will cover much of the ceiling.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 7/17/06 through 7/21/06

CVC and East Front Plaza:

- Mason teams continue setting the floor stone in the center of the Great Hall in a decorative basketweave pattern. A mock-up was approved Monday, July 17, providing the clearance for masons to work out to all four corners of the Great Hall.
- A skylight installation contractor continues installation of the north skylight above the Great Hall.
- Steel workers have begun installing the steel beams and arches that will support a barrel vaulted ceiling rising up through the East Front transition zone. Meanwhile, masons continue setting base stone, wall stone, and stair stone in the basement and Crypt level. Abatement of lead paint on the original sandstone façade is complete on the Crypt level and a crew has begun abatement work at the Rotunda level on the north side of the East Front.
- In the Exhibition Hall, masons have completed the floor stone in the northwest quadrant and will begin setting stone on the steps of the virtual House and Senate Theaters, the only remaining stonework in the Exhibition Hall. Crews have completed installing the ceiling insulation. The ceiling plaster work is ongoing.
- Millwork for the CVC Orientation Theaters arrived last week and the millwork contractor has begun installing wood ceiling trim in the South Orientation Theater. Millwork will occur in both theaters through the month of August.
- Crews continue setting curb stones along the trees-lined pedestrian walkways leading to the CVC entrances and are nearly complete setting the low stone seatwall around the south skylight above the Great Hall.
- Ceiling drywall installation continues in the Food Service area. Wall and floor tile work is substantially complete in the food preparation area, and white ceramic tile is complete along the back wall of the servery area. In two weeks, crews are expected to begin installing acoustic fabric panels to the ceiling soffits above the seating area.

- Masons continue setting stone on all three levels of the House and Senate stairwell atria.
- Masons continue setting pavers in a decorative pattern around the north historic fountain.
- Inside the House and Senate Expansion Space, the majority of framework and drywall installation is complete on all three levels in both spaces. Wall and ceiling “close-in” inspections for all of the mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire safety systems are ongoing. The ceiling grid continues being installed throughout the upper level of the Senate Expansion Space and is complete in all but two rooms on the upper level of the House Expansion Space.



Masons set a block of Tennessee Marble in the center of the Great Hall. A mockup of the stonework has been approved by the project architect and masons are now working out to all four corners of the Great Hall, an area that encompasses 20,000 square feet, nearly three times the floor space of the Capitol's Rotunda.

East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel

- CVC crews continue installing the necessary insulation to the new utility lines where they connect to the old lines in the Second Street tunnel. CVC Utility Tunnel operation is expected to begin in August.

Next Week – 7/24/06 – 7/28/06

CVC, East Front Plaza Work, East Capitol Street Utility Tunnel

- Installation of millwork will continue in the South Orientation Theater.
- Installation of the north skylight will continue above the Great Hall.
- Floor stone installation will continue in the Great Hall.
- Masons will install stone to the steps that lead to the virtual House and Senate Theaters inside the Exhibit Hall.
- Installation of base and wall stone will continue inside the East Front transition zone at the upper level of the CVC and at the Crypt level inside the East Front of the Capitol. Abatement work will continue at the Rotunda level.
- Installation of a steel framework will continue in the East Front.
- Crews are expected to complete insulation work for the CVC utility tunnel.
- Stone masons will continue installation of asphalt pavers in a decorative pattern around historic features on the East Front Plaza.
- Ceiling work will continue in upper and lower level corridors throughout the CVC, and in the main lobby just east of the Orientation Theaters.
- Crews will continue installing mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, metal stud walls, drywall and ductwork, and continue paint priming in various zones throughout the House and Senate Expansion Space. Stone installation will continue in the House and Senate stairwell atria. Wall and ceiling close-in inspections continue throughout both expansion spaces.

For additional information about the Capitol Visitor Center project, please contact Tom Fontana, Project Communications Officer at (202) 228-1310, or by e-mail at tfontana@aac.gov. Other project information is available on the CVC web site at www.aoc.gov.